

Express Mail No. EV 346 810 609 US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Thibaut MAURICE et al.

Confirmation No. 7072

Application No.: 10/716,897

Group Art Unit: 1772

11 10,710,057

Filing Date: November 18, 2003

Examiner:

For: PREPARATION METHOD FOR PROTECTING THE BACK SURFACE OF A WAFER

Attorney Docket No.: 4717-12000

AND BACK SURFACE PROTECTED WAFER

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to applicants' duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. 1.56, enclosed is a PTO form 1449 which lists nine (9) references for the Examiner's review and consideration. These references were cited in the European search report and a copy is enclosed.

These references are listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that these references be made of record in this application by the Examiner's completion and return of the PTO Form 1449.

No fee is believed to be due for the filing of this statement as it is being submitted prior to an initial office action for this application. Should any fees be required, however, please charge such fees to Winston & Strawn LLP Deposit Account No. 50-1814.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 3-5-04

Allan A. Fanucci (Reg. No. 30,256)

WINSTON & STRAWN LLP CUSTOMER NO. 28765

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Enclosures

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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not
in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

DATE CONSIDERED

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EXAMINER